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Roxbury, April 24, 1879 (4)

Dear friend May:

I duly received yours of the 19th inst., enclosing your check for twenty-five dollars in aid of the wretchedly destitute colored emigrants who are endeavouring to find a refuge at the West from Southern rapacity and oppression. It is a liberal contribution, and for it those who are ready to perish, if you could but stand in their midst, would assuredly invoke the blessing of Heaven upon your head.

For several days past, though having a slow fever about me and feeling quite miserable, I have been busy in answering letters and sending acknowledgments for donations received with reference to the refugees, and am happy to state that I have already received the sum of five hundred dollars for this purpose—one hundred of which is from Mary Hollis, of Braintree; but whether she is single or married I do not know. In the Journal, Traveller and Transcript of to-morrow evening I shall publish a list of the donors, with the amounts transmitted to me. I shall take every precaution to see that the money is put into trustworthy hands at St Louis, so that every dollar may be made available in succoring the poor fugitives.

Last evening there was a great meeting held in Cooper Institute, New York, in their behalf. I was officially invited to be one of the speakers on the occasion, but could only send a letter to be read to the meeting, the tone of which was pretty decisive. The same letter was sent to be read at the gathering at Faneuil Hall to-day noon, my invalid condition requiring me to stay at home. How I long for health and strength as in the days of old!

My faith in Divine Justice is strong that this event will

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- in the end be productive of good to the entire colored population of the South, and tend powerfully to their final deliverance from such cruel persecution. It may be safely affirmed that they have never had so many sympathizing friends as now.

Fanny and her children have been spending some ten days with me, but are now at the Westmoreland House in New York. I shall join them in a few days, and remain with them, probably, at least a fortnight. Mr. Tilden has gone to Oregon, and will not get back for some time. They all expect to be off for Europe in June.

Frank was made happy by your kind, congratulatory letter in regard to his engagement with Miss Pratt. We all consider it a most desirable match.

Ever affectionately yours,
W^m. Lloyd Garrison.

Rev. Samuel May,
Leicester
Mass.

April 24. 1879